Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 011832 TOSEC 010017 ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF: LWALKER: JR APPROVED BY AF: WCHARROP S/S - FWISNER AF/E - MR. POST AF/C - MR. JUNIOR

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O 170149Z JAN 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 011832 TOSEC 010017

LONDON FOR ASS'T SECRETARY MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, UG

SUBJECT: DIRECT CONTACT WITH AMIN FOLLOWING IS ACTION MEMORANDUM TO THE SECRETARY ON ABOVE SUBJECT FROM AF HARROP, ACTING

1. YOU AGREED, IN PRINCIPLE, TO THE IDEA OF ESTABLISHING
A DIRECT CONTACT WITH AMIN, BUT ASKED THAT WE LAY OUT FOR
YOU THE SCENARIO THAT WE WOULD PURSUE IN THIS REGARD. WE
BELIEVE THAT THE INITIAL CONTACT WITH AMIN SHOULD BE SET
UP THROUGH MOBUTU--ONE OF THE FEW FRIENDS AMIN HAS AND ONE
WHO CAN EXERCISE INFLUENCE OVER THE UGANDAN' A DRAFT
TELEGRAM TO KINSHASA, SENT SEPARATELY FOR YOUR APPROVAL,
SETS OUT THE DETAILS OF OUR PROPOSED APPROACH, AND IF
YOU AGREE WE WILL MOVE EXPEDITOUSLY. IN ADDITION, I
WOULD ASK YOU TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:
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2. PUBLICITY CONCERNING OUR POSITION ON THE PEASE BILLS AND THE HARRIS CONTRACT.

IF WE ARE GOING TO TRY TO USE OUR DECISIONS TO OPPOSE THE PEASE BILLS AND TO APPROVE THE HARRIS CONTRACT TO BRING ABOUT PROGRESS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS FRONT IN UGANDA, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THEN IT IS IMPORTANT THAT KNOWLEDGE OF OUR DECISIONS NOT REACH AMIN BEFORE OUR REPRESENTATIVE

HAS A CHANCE TO MEET WITH HIM. THIS MEANS
THAT WE SHOULD EITHER HOLD OFF ON GIVING OUR RESPONSE

TO THE HILL ON THE PEASE BILLS, OR ALLY THAT RESPONSE WITH CONSULTATIONS WHICH INFORM KEY MEMBERS WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO DO. IT ALSO MEANS THAT WE MUST KEEP THE HARRIS COMPANY IN LIMBO A WHILE LONGER.

3. INFORMING NAIROBI AND BONN; PRESS GUIDANCE

THE REFERENCE TELEGRAM IS ADDRESSED ONLY TO KINSHASA ON THE GROUNDS THAT OUR INITIATIVE SHOULD BE CLOSELY HELD. IF MOBUTU IS SUCCESSFUL, HOWEVER, IN SETTING UP THE MEETING WITH AMIN ALONG THE LINES WE SUGGEST, WE WOULD THEN INFORM BONN AND NAIROBI. PRESS GUIDANCE WOULD ALSO BE PREPARED AT THAT TIME IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE LEAKS, OR IF THE INITIAL MEETING OR SUBSEQUENT CONTACTS BECOME KNOWN.

4. ANOTHER DEMARCHE WITH MOBUTU ON NGUZA

ASSUMING MOBUTU PLAYS THE ROLE WE ENVISAGE, HE WILL IN THE PROCESS BECOME EVEN MORE SENSITIZED TO OUR CONCERN OVER HUMAN RIGHTS. AND IN THIS CONNECTION, I BELIEVE THAT OUR REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD TAKE THE OCCASION, AFTER THE MEETING WITH AMIN, TO RAISE THE SECRET

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NGUZA ISSUE AGAIN WITH MOBUTU. IT CAN BE MADE CLEAR TO THE ZAIRIAN LEADER THAT HIS OWN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ARE IN JEOPARDY AS THE CONGRESS FOCUSES ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE NEXT SESSION. HE JUST MIGHT BE BROUGHT TO UNDERSTAND THAT RELEASING NGUZA COULD DO HIM SOME GOOD. I THINK THE TIMING IS RIGHT.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS:

A) THAT YOU APPROVE THE TELEGRAM TO KINSHASA WHICH LAYS OUT THE SCENARIO FOR A DIRECT CONTACT WITH AMIN. APPROVE: DISAPPROVE:

B) THAT WE HOLD OFF ON SENDING TO THE HILL OUR POSITION ON THE PEASE BILLS AND THAT WE KEEP HARRIS IN LIMBO UNTIL WE HAVE SEEN AMIN.

APPROVE: DISAPPROVE:

C) THAT WE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MOBUTU'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE APPROACH TO AMIN TO MAKE A PITCH FOR NGUZA'S RELEASE. APPROVE: DISAPPROVE:

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: TOSEC, MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 17 jan 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEV Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a Disposition Reason: Disposition Remarks: Document Number: 1978STATE011832 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: LWALKER:JR Enclosure: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration:

Film Number: D780023-1047

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780155/aaaabtuv.tel

Line Count: 117 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 73c9cfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF

Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 25 apr 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3761924 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: DIRECT CONTACT WITH AMIN FOLLOWING IS ACTION MEMORANDUM TO THE SECRETARY ON ABOVE FROM AF HARROP,

TAGS: PINT, PEPR, UG, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (AMIN DADA, IDI)

To: SECRETARY LONDON

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/73c9cfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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